

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/03/03 : CIA-RDP87M00539R001902900016-1

DOCUMENTS CROSS-REFERENCED
ATTACHED:

OIS 85-375

ER 85-2550.

Page Denied

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

STAT

Richard Cummings, Esquire

Dear Mr. Cummings:

This is in regard to your letter of 24 June 1985, addressed to Director Casey, about Congressman Allard Lowenstein. Your letter was referred to this office for our response to you.

Your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request is nearing completion. Unfortunately, we are unable to give you a precise completion date for this request. This agency has a sizable backlog, which is now approximately 2,300 Privacy Act and FOIA requests. It is our policy to handle all requests on a first-in, first-out basis. We have found this to be the most equitable policy if we are to be fair to all requesters.

We have no comment to make regarding your remarks about Congressman Lowenstein. As you know, the Agency neither confirms nor denies operational relationships with specific individuals, whether living or deceased.

If you have any additional questions at this time--before you receive our formal FOIA response--we suggest that you contact the Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, who has formally inquired about Congressman Lowenstein's relationship with the CIA. Mr. Briggs, Director of the CIA's Office of Legislative Liaison, responded to Congressman Hamilton's inquiry on 18 January 1985.

Sincerely,

John H. Wright
Information and Privacy Coordinator

24 June 1985

STAT

Mr. William Casey
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I am a writer who wrote " The Pied Piper, " the biography of Allard Lowenstein. I also served as legislative counsel to former Assemblyman Perry Duryea while he was Minority Leader of the New York State Assembly. You should be receiving a copy of the book shortly from my publisher, Grove Press.

In the book, I allege that Lowenstein worked for the CIA. I was advised by confidential sources that this was so and backed this up with materials I obtained in Lowenstein's papers and diaries. For your information, I am enclosing the press releases that came out at the time of publication.

The CIA has never provided me with Lowenstein's file, although I have requested it under the Freedom of Information Act. Portions of it were released to Lowenstein, and I was finally given copies of some of these documents by lawyers for a group of Lowenstein's friends that are attacking the book and me. Liberals in the press have denounced the book, such as Myra MacPherson of The Washington Post.

I started my political life as a liberal Democrat. It was very helpful for me to learn the truth about Lowenstein and the liberal movement. I think it would be in the public interest if Lowenstein's complete file were released to me. The Democrats want to use Lowenstein as a role model to recruit young people into their ranks. I am convinced that this is why they have attacked the book. A full disclosure would help in setting the record straight.

Respectfully,

Richard Cummings
Richard Cummings

JUN 27 2 44 PM '85



STAT

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/03/03 : CIA-RDP87M00539R001902900016-1

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/03/03 : CIA-RDP87M00539R001902900016-1

24 June 1985

Mr. William Casey
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I am a writer who wrote " The Pied Piper, " the biography of Allard Lowenstein. I also served as legislative counsel to former Assemblyman Perry Duryea while he was Minority Leader of the New York State Assembly. You should be receiving a copy of the book shortly from my publisher, Grove Press.

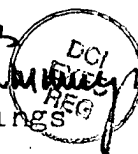
In the book, I allege that Lowenstein worked for the CIA. I was advised by confidential sources that this was so and backed this up with materials I obtained in Lowenstein's papers and diaries. For your information, I am enclosing the press releases that came out at the time of publication.

The CIA has never provided me with Lowenstein's file, although I have requested it under the Freedom of Information Act. Portions of it were released to Lowenstein, and I was finally given copies of some of these documents by lawyers for a group of Lowenstein's friends that are attacking the book and me. Liberals in the press have denounced the book, such as Myra MacPherson of The Washington Post.

I started my political life as a liberal Democrat. It was very helpful for me to learn the truth about Lowenstein and the liberal movement. I think it would be in the public interest if Lowenstein's complete file were released to me. The Democrats want to use Lowenstein as a role model to recruit young people into their ranks. I am convinced that this is why they have attacked the book. A full disclosure would help in setting the record straight.

Respectfully,

Richard Cummings
Richard Cummings



Page Denied